

Approved February 5, 2013

TOWN OF CORNWALL
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Cornwall Town Office
Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Present: Bruce Hilland, Judy Watts, Abi Sessions, Ben Wood, Stu Johnson, Sue Johnson

Guests: Holly Noordsy, Jeff Noordsy, Dennis Rheume, Magna Dodge

PUBLIC HEARING: CAPITAL BUDGET AND PLAN

The Capital Budget and Plan hearing was called to order at 7:00pm by Bruce Hiland.

Sue Johnson summarized the process and distributed copies of the proposed capital plan and budget for FY 2014. The two capital line items will be part of the general fund budget presented to the voters at Town Meeting in March. Voters approved \$120,000 last year for the capital equipment fund. Capital funds for buildings will be considered for the first time in 2013. Because the voters approved \$100,000 for the Fire Department building project at the 2012 Town Meeting, taxes will not increase if the same \$100,000 is approved for capital fund for buildings at the 2013 Town Meeting.

Proposed capital equipment fund line item: \$130,000, level funded.

Proposed Capital fund buildings line item: \$100,000 - includes the Town Hall, Town Garage, and Town Shed. The Town has solicited bids and will select a firm for an engineering study to identify immediate and long range needs for Town buildings.

The Selectboard and Town Clerk/Treasurer praised "dollar wise" spending by the Fire Department and Road Commissioner, resulting in Town equipment expenses and Fire Department renovation project coming in under budget in 2012.

The Capital Plan and Budget Hearing was closed at 7:15pm

SELECTBOARD MEETING - called to order at 7:16.

General fund and highway orders—*signed*

MINUTES: January 8 Meeting—Judy MOVED / Ben SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. *Motion carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

- Signed final stipulation – Groves matter

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

TOWN CLERK / TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

Reminder that the Selectboard will meet briefly Jan 29 at 5pm to sign the Town Warning.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- Will be meeting with gravel vendor about solution to gravel problem.

- The towns of Addison and Cornwall shared the cost of a spray rig for roadside vegetation management for \$1,000 each. Another good example of “dollar smart” purchasing power when towns cooperate.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Lavalley update** – Ben Wood – former site of the Lavalley building has been graded. Final costs are coming in at a little over \$19,000, which is under budget.
- **Update on VT Gas/ IP pipeline project** – Bruce Hiland met again with the chairs of Middlebury and Shoreham Selectboards. Communication between Vermont Gas and the towns has had some real problems. For example, even though Vermont Gas told the towns that a route for Phase Two has not yet been selected and that the towns will have input into the decision, a route map for Phase Two (as well as one for Phase One) was filed with the PSB application for a certificate of public good for Phase One. The towns have communicated to VT Gas that the company has created a serious breach of trust. Dave Sears has been in communication with a Selectboard member in Monkton and will continue to be. Other members are encouraged to network with leaders and others they know in towns affected by the pipeline project. Bruce Hiland has briefed the Town Attorney, and is taking action to obtain status for the Town at PSB hearings.
- **Brief working session on the general fund budget** – with the Town Treasurer
- **Capital Fund budgets** –
Abi MOVED / Ben SECONDED motion to approve a line item of \$130,000 for the capital equipment fund and \$100,000 for the capital building fund, as line items within the general fund budget. *The motion passed.*
- **Selectboard Annual Report** - The board approved the final draft of the Selectboard Report for Town Meeting

NEW BUSINESS

- Tar Sands Resolution for Town Meeting – *considered.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Tierra, Clerk of the Selectboard